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OFFICE OF
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

SEP 28 1993

mm Docket 92-263

*Secretary
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SEP 30 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Michael D. Crapo
House of Representatives
437 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Crapo:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

On August 10, 1993, the Commission granted a temporary stay of the rate regulations for small systems with 1,000 or fewer subscribers (see enclosure) and initiated a Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making to examine the burdens on small cable systems. Our customer service standards are also under reconsideration.

Your comments will be placed in the record of these proceedings, and I assure you that they will receive careful attention.

Sincerely,

James H. Quello
Chairman

Enclosure

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

SEP 28 1993

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable Dirk Kempthorne
United States Senate
B40-3 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kempthorne:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

On August 10, 1993, the Commission granted a temporary stay of the rate regulations for small systems with 1,000 or fewer subscribers (see enclosure) and initiated a Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making to examine the burdens on small cable systems. Our customer service standards are also under reconsideration.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James H. Quello".

James H. Quello
Chairman

Enclosure



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

SEP 28 1993

Honorable Larry E. Craig
United States Senate
302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Craig:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about how our new cable regulations may affect small cable systems.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James H. Quello".

James H. Quello
Chairman

Enclosure

9/17
9/15

MICHAEL D. CRAPO
2D DISTRICT, IDAHO
NEW MEMBER LEADER

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CO-CHAIRMAN

CONGRESSIONAL RURAL CAUCUS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1202

August 23, 1993

The Honorable James H. Quello
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Quello:

As Members of the Idaho Congressional Delegation, we are writing to share our concerns over the status of small cable operators in the Commission's implementation of the 1992 Cable Act.

As you know, Congress has required under Section 623(i) of the Cable Act that the Commission "develop and prescribe cable rate regulations that reduce the administrative burdens and cost of compliance for cable systems that have 1,000 or more subscribers." This provision is an effort to protect small cable companies from excessive administrative burdens.

Idaho is a largely rural state, and the cost of doing business in serving isolated communities can be significantly greater than equal numbers in more densely populated areas. These burdens and severe restrictions on small cable companies' ability to recover costs should be recognized by the Commission in its oversight and regulation of rates.

Most small companies want to come into compliance with the Act, but lack the technical expertise to make the transition an easy one. To ease these burdens and thereby assure existing services to subscribers in rural and semi-rural areas, we urge the Commissioner to take the following actions:

- o Permit rate regulations based on a simplified net income analysis which would be easier to calculate and apply than the benchmark approach.
- o Allow small operators to set rates up to the benchmark cap.
- o Allow small operators to set rates, taking into consideration costs associated with expansion and providing new services when setting such rates.

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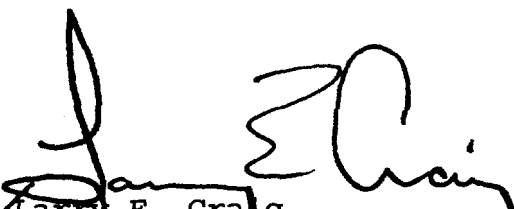
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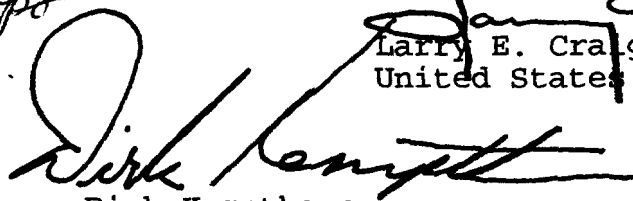
- o Permit systems to base rates on the bundling of service and equipment charges.
- o Clarify that small operators are not required to maintain local offices in each service area community, unless the population density of the community justifies maintaining such a local office.

These recommendations will help accomplish the intent of Section 623(i) of the Cable Act and also maintain the Act's intent of consumer protection. Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,


Michael D. Crapo
Member of Congress


Larry E. Craig
United States Senator


Dirk Kempthorne
United State Senator